

DISTURBING END TO THRILL-PACKED GAME

HENDON are investigating a report that a window of a coach, carrying Wycombe supporters, was smashed in the Claremont Road car park.

The incident followed the thrilling mid-week Isthmian League game in which champion-chasing Wycombe Wanderers thrashed Hendon 3-1, writes Fred Harris.

"A window of one of our vehicles was broken," revealed a spokesman for Jeffways and Pilot Coaches Ltd., of Wycombe.

After hearing that Hendon followers might have been responsible, Hendon Secretary Harry Cartwright said, if true, then it is a disgraceful state of affairs.

Such incidents must be stamped out, even if it means having stewards policing the car park. And the culprits, if caught, would be severely dealt with.

The allegations were a disturbing end to a magnificent match in which Wycombe displayed the skill, finishing power and courage—the hall mark of champions.

Tragic loss

They survived the tragic loss of goalkeeper John Maskell with a broken finger, and were still on terms at the end of the first half, despite playing most of the time with only 10 men.

Maskell damaged the little finger of his left hand in the opening minutes.

There was an appeal for a doctor, who, after a brief inspection on the pitch, ordered the goalkeeper to hospital for a further examination.

Bernie Bremer took over in goal and Wycombe manager Brian Lee, hoping it was only a dislocation, resisted the temptation of sending on substitute Geoff Anthony until it was confirmed at half time that Maskell had broken the finger.

Though with only 10 men, Wycombe took a shock 36th-

minute lead. A terrible pass back by Newton Ashman was snapped up by Tony Horseman, who beat John Swannell from an acute angle for his 45th goal of the season.

Ashman partly atoned for his boob by equalising two minutes before the end of the action-packed half, in which an ugly scuffle between Hendon's Johny Baker and Ted Powell resulted in the Wycombe skipper being kicked in the face.

Improved bid

Strengthened by the inclusion of Welsh international Geoff Anthony in the second half, Wycombe regained the lead with a cracking shot by the speedy Welshman, and made certain of improving their bid for the championship when John Hutchinson beat Swannell with a tremendous drive from over 30 yards.

Substitute goalkeeper Bremer gave a heroic display, and was chaired off the pitch by Wycombe supporters afterwards.

"The best footballing performance at Hendon this season," said chairman Freddy Debenham, congratulating Wycombe on their victory.

"It was only because a team like Hendon allowed us to play football," replied a Wycombe official.

Hendon.—J. Swannell, D. Hogwood, N. Windsor, P. Deadman, M. Cannon, R. Haider, R. Wilson, N. Ashman, J. Baker, M. Cooper (Injured), K. Jameson. Substitute: A. Slade.

Wycombe Wanderers.—J. Maskell (Injured), K. Blunt, C. Gale, E. Powell, I. Rundle, B. Bremer, A. Horseman, B. Baker, K. Searle, L. Prichard, J. Hutchinson. Substitute: G. Anthony.